

What is claimed is:

5 1. An apparatus for using compressed codes for
information broadcast recording that comprises: means for
entering compressed codes each having at least one digit and
each representative of, and compressed in length from, the
10 combination of a proper subset of the set of channel, date,
time-of-day and length commands for an information broadcast;
and means for decoding a compressed code having at least one
digit into a proper subset of the set of channel, date, time-
of-day and length commands;

15 2. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1
wherein each compressed code: has a length less than the
length of the concatenation of said incorporated proper subset
20 of the set of channel, date, time-of-day and length commands;
and

25 3. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1
wherein each compressed code: comprises one or more
alphanumeric characters.

30 4. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1
wherein: said means for decoding expands each of said
compressed codes into an individual, proper subset of the set
of channel, date, time-of-day and length commands for an
individual information broadcast.

35 5. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1
wherein said means for entering a compressed code comprises:

means for remote control that comprises the means for entering
and a signal transmit means for communicating said compressed
5 code to said means for decoding.

6. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1
wherein said means for entering a compressed code comprises a
10 keyboard.

7. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 5
further comprising: means for recording coupled to said means
for decoding.

8. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 7
further comprising: a clock for providing an output as a
function of time; and said means for decoding performing the
20 decoding as a function of said clock output.

9. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 8
wherein said means for recording comprises: said clock; means
for selecting a channel to record in response to said decoded
25 channel commands; means for turning said means for recording
on in response to comparison of said decoded time-of-day
commands with said clock output; and means for turning said
means for recording off in response to comparison of the
30 record on time with said decoded length commands.

10. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1
further comprising: means for recording; means for remote
control, wherein the means for remote control comprises the
35 means for entering said compressed codes and the means for

decoding said compressed codes; and a clock for providing an
output as a function of time coupled to said means for
5 decoding.

11. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 10
wherein: said means for decoding performs the decoding as a
10 function of said clock output.

12. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 11
further comprising: means for selecting a channel to record in
response to said decoded channel commands; means for turning
15 said means for recording on in response to comparison of said
decoded time-of-day commands with said clock output; and means
for turning said means for recording off in response to
comparison of the record on time with said decoded length
20 commands.

13. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 12
wherein said means for remote control comprises: signal
transmit means for transmitting commands to said means for
25 recording; means for selecting a channel to record in response
to said decoded channel commands; means for turning said means
for recording on in response to comparison of said decoded
time-of-day commands with said clock output; and means for
30 turning said means for recording off in response to comparison
of the record on time with said decoded length commands.

14. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 12
further comprising: means for transmitting a proper subset of
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the set of channel, date, time-of-day and length commands from said means for remote control to said means for recording.

5 15. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 14 wherein said means for recording comprises: a clock for providing an output as a function of time; means for selecting
10 a channel to record in response to said decoded channel commands; means for turning said means for recording on in response to comparison of said decoded time-of-day commands with said clock output; and means for turning said means for
15 recording off in response to comparison of the record on time with said decoded length commands.

16. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 1 further comprising: means for remote control, wherein the
20 means for remote control comprises the means for entering said compressed codes and the means for decoding said compressed codes.

25 17. The apparatus for using compressed codes of claim 16 wherein: said means for remote control comprises a universal remote control capable of learning protocols of a different remote controller with which said means for universal remote
30 control interfaces.

18. A method for using compressed codes for information
broadcast recording that comprises: receiving compressed
codes, each having at least one digit and each representative
35 of, and compressed in length from, the combination of a proper subset of the set of channel, date, time-of-day and length

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commands for an information broadcast; and decoding a
compressed code having at least one digit into a proper subset
5 of the set of channel, date, time-of-day and length commands;

19. The method for using compressed codes of claim 18
further comprises: decoding each of said compressed codes into
10 a individual, proper subset of the set of channel, date, time-
of-day and length commands for an individual information
broadcast.

20. The method for using compressed codes of claim 18
15 further comprises: receiving a compressed code in a remote
control and transmitting said compressed code to said means
for decoding using said remote control.

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